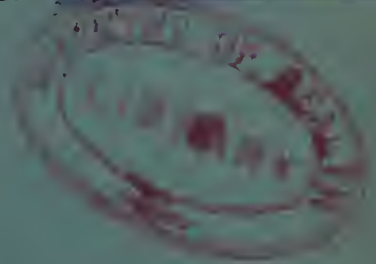
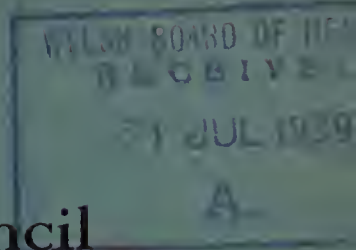


Whitehall

**Mynyddislwyn
Urban District Council**



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Sanitary Inspector

for the

Year ended 31st Dec., 1938

BLACKWOOD ;

J. E. ROBERTS, Sirhowy Valley Printing Works, 91, High Street.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1938.

MR. CHAIRMAN,
MRS. HARROLD AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit my **ANNUAL REPORT** on the health of the inhabitants of the district **for the Year 1938.**

I am pleased to say that the general health has been good. The birth-rate is lower than last year's, and is lower than that of the County—and the death-rate is also lower than the County rate.

There is an increase of three in the number of cases of Tuberculosis, making 22 this year ; while the number of deaths from Cancer (according to Reg. General's returns) shows an increase of eight.

Diphtheria has been more prevalent in the area but, fortunately, it has been of a mild type, though there was one death.

Scarlet Fever cases were two less than during last year.

There was one case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever which recovered after treatment in Hospital.

Housing

While a number of houses in the area are not all that can be desired, in view of the difficulty in finding suitable alternative accommodation and as this district is scheduled as a reception area in a case of a national emergency I have not advised for the demolition of any properties, but steps have been taken to remedy defects as far as possible.

The feeding of school children is carried out only in the South Ward.

I am indebted to and thank Mr. Goddard (Engineer to the Abertillery and District Water Board) for the table of rainfalls for the Year 1938.

I also take the opportunity to thank Mr. James (Sanitary Inspector), and the other officials of your Council for their help and co-operation, and the Medical Staffs of the County Council and of the local Tuberculosis Clinic for their assistance during the year.

General Statistics

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Area (acres) | ... | ... | ... | 5,415 |
| Population (1931 Census) | ... | ... | ... | 15,136 |
| Population (1938 estimated) | ... | ... | ... | 13,210 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses (1921) | ... | ... | ... | 2,649 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books | ... | ... | ... | 3,211 |
| Rateable Value | ... | ... | ... | £47,570 |
| Product of a Penny Rate | ... | ... | ... | £155 |

Births and Deaths

| | | | Total—M. | F. |
|---|-----|-----|----------|------|
| Live Births—Legitimate | ... | ... | 92 | 100 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | 3 | 2 |
| Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population | | | | 14·9 |
| Still Births | ... | ... | 4 | 11 |
| Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births | ... | ... | | 15·7 |
| Deaths | ... | ... | ... | 143 |
| Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population | | | | 10·8 |

Deaths from puerperal causes (heading 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):—

| | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births |
|----------------------------|-----------|--|
| Puerperal sepsis ... | Nil | Nil |
| Other puerperal causes ... | Nil | Nil |
| | <hr/> Nil | <hr/> Nil |

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births ... 50'7

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 52 08

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births '08

Deaths from Cancer—all ages ... 12

Deaths from Measles—all ages ... Nil

Deaths from Whooping Coughs—all ages ... Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea—under 2 years of age ... Nil

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(i) *Public Health Officers of the Authority.*

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health: C. G. Mackay, M.B.

2. Full-time Sanitary and Meat Inspector:

P. S. James, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

(ii) *a Laboratory Facilities.* County Council.

b Ambulance Facilities. Nil.

c Nursing in the Home. District Nursing Association.

d Clinic and Treatment Centres. County Council.

e Hospitals: Public and Voluntary.

No change from previous reports.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

| Rainfall registered at Nant-y-Draenog Reservoir during the year 1938. | | | No. of days without rainfall | |
|--|-----|-------------|---------------------------------|----|
| January | ... | 5'84 inches | ... | 6 |
| February | ... | 1'60 " | ... | 19 |
| March | ... | '28 " | ... | 27 |
| April | ... | '13 " | ... | 28 |
| May | ... | 5'27 " | ... | 13 |
| June | ... | 3'34 " | ... | 15 |
| July | ... | 5'31 " | ... | 12 |
| August | ... | 4'26 " | ... | 12 |
| September | ... | 3'20 " | ... | 15 |
| October | ... | 8'71 " | ... | 10 |
| November | ... | 8'77 " | ... | 6 |
| December | ... | 6'81 " | ... | 12 |

In the table given below you have the total depth of rainfall in each month, also the days in which you had the greatest rainfall in 24 hours:—

| Month | Total Depth | | Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours. | | Date |
|-----------|-------------|-----|-----------------------------------|-----|------|
| | Inches | | Inches | | |
| January | 5'84 | ... | '72 | ... | 16th |
| February | 1'60 | ... | '72 | ... | 25th |
| March | '28 | ... | '19 | ... | 24th |
| April | '13 | ... | '07 | ... | 23rd |
| May | 5'27 | ... | 1'35 | ... | 31st |
| June | 3'34 | ... | '91 | ... | 1st |
| July | 5'31 | ... | 1'22 | ... | 6th |
| August | 4'26 | ... | '65 | ... | 18th |
| September | 3'20 | ... | '83 | ... | 21st |
| October | 8'71 | ... | 1'66 | ... | 3rd |
| November | 8'77 | ... | 1'69 | ... | 12th |
| December | 6'81 | ... | 1'31 | ... | 9th |

Water Supply

The main source of water supply, which is obtained from the Abertillery and District Water Board, has again, on the whole (during the year) been excellent in quality, and fairly plentiful.

It is pleasing to note that with the exception of a few isolated places, the whole district is supplied with water from the Board's main.

The Engineer to the Board takes samples at regular intervals, and ensures a safe supply.

Drainage and Sewerage

Details which were submitted to the Commissioner, for the construction of a new sewer at Brynheulog (near Nailer's Arms) has now been carried out.

Rivers and Streams

No action has been taken in relation to the pollution of Rivers and Streams in the area; the chief pollution of the rivers in these industrial areas is, of course, the coal-dust: and this is common in the areas through which the rivers run.

Closet Accommodation

The district is well served with efficient sewers, and practically all houses in all the built-up areas are provided with water-closets. There remains, however, a few outlying portions of the area, and houses on the hilltops, which are not within a reasonable distance of the sewers: these are provided with pail-closets.

Public Cleansing

There is very little change to report on the collection of refuse from that of last year, only to add that the regularity has been maintained and satisfaction given.

On the disposal of refuse, however, I am pleased to report that the officials have been able to somewhat improve the system, and the refuse dumps are gradually becoming less unsightly.

When ever there is earth or soil available in the district it is now transported to the refuse tips and used as an intermediate layer or for covering, according to depth of the tip.

Sanitary Inspection of the area

| | | |
|--|-----|------|
| (a) Number of Inspections made during the year | ... | 1086 |
| (b) Number of Notices served—Informal | .. | 143 |
| Number of Notices served—Statutory | ... | 8 |

Shops

During the year, the Sanitary Inspector made a survey of all the Shops in the area in compliance with the Shops Act, 1934, and reports that nearly all of them are satisfactory. Where they were not in all respects in compliance, letters were sent to the occupiers, and the matters were immediately attended to.

Smoke Abatement

Considerable complaints were received of dust arising from stack of boilers and rubbish-tips at Nine Mile Point Colliery. This nuisance was considerably reduced by moistening the fuel to a degree no drier than that of slurry. Regarding the dust from the rubbish-tip, a process of spraying was carried out.

Schools

The schools in the district are supplied with a plentiful and good water supply direct from the mains of the respective Water Boards.

The Sanitary Conveniences and the Schools themselves are of modern construction; periodical inspections are carried out by your Sanitary Inspector, and a fairly high standard of cleanliness and order is maintained in and about the Schools.

Swimming Bath and Pool

The Council have provided at Pontllanfraith an Open-Air Swimming Bath, 130 feet long by 40 feet wide, varying in depth from 2ft. 9ins. at the shallow end to 9ft. 6ins. of water in the Diving Pool. The Pool is adequately equipped with Diving Apparatus.

The Pool is equipped with a continuous filtration plant with a capacity of 30,000 gallons per hour, which is capable of changing the whole of the contents of the Bath once every six hours. The water drawn from the Bath is filtered by means of pressure filters being afterwards aerated and treated with chloramine.

The dosing plant for chlorine and ammonia is carefully regulated to suit the intensity of bathing in the Baths, and samples of water are taken from the deep and shallow ends twice a day. The doses of chlorine is maintained between two and four parts per million. A careful record is kept in a log provided for the purpose of the condition of the bath water throughout the whole of the bathing season.

The buildings are equipped with the most modern appliances for the storage of bathers' clothes. The whole of the furniture is steel, and everything connected with this aspect of the Bath is rigidly supervised to maintain a high degree of sanitary efficiency.

Extensive facilities are provided for sun-bathing and games.

Losses of water in the bath due to filtration and waste in the scum trough are made good from the mains of the Abertillery and District Water Board.

Facilities are provided for Juvenile Instruction, and nine schools received instruction during the past year. The total number attendances of pupils who received such instruction was 2,113 and a large number acquired a certificate of proficiency in Swimming at the end of the Summer Season.

The total number of bathers and spectators were as follows :

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---------------|
| Bathers (Adults) | ... | ... | ... | 7,604 |
| Bathers (Juvenile) including School Classes | ... | ... | ... | 9,763 |
| Spectators (Adults) | ... | ... | ... | 3,280 |
| Spectators (Juvenile) | ... | ... | ... | 1,199 |
| TOTAL | | | | <u>21,846</u> |

HOUSING

1 Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year—†

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... | ... | ... | 362 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | | | 714 |

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 2 (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | ... | ... | ... | 30 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | ... | ... | ... | 41 |
| 3 Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 4 Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | ... | ... | ... | 144 |
| 2 Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices | | | | |
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authorities or their officers | ... | ... | ... | 125 |
| 3 Action under Statutory Powers during the year | | | | |
| A Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 : | | | | |
| 1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| 2 Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— | | | | |
| (a) By owners | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| B Proceedings under Public Health Acts : | | | | |
| 1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| 2 Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | | | | |
| (a) By owners | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| C Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 : | | | | |
| 1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 2 Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | ... | ... | 10 |

D Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

| | | | | |
|---|---|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | ... | ... | Nil |
| 2 | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | Nil |

Housing Act, 1936 *Part IV.—Overcrowding.*

| | | |
|--------|--|-----|
| 1. | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 3 |
| 2. | Number of families dwelling therein | 3 |
| 3. | Number of persons dwelling therein : | |
| | Persons over 10 years | 14 |
| | Children between 1 and 10 years | 4 |
| (b) | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | Nil |
| (c) I. | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 10 |
| | II. Number of persons concerned in such cases | |
| | over ten— | 44 |
| | under ten— | 19 |
| (d) | Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | Nil |
| (e) | Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report | Nil |

Inspection and Supervision of Foods

(a) *Milk*—The Sanitary Inspector has been visiting the Dairies, Milkshops and Cowsheds within the area during the year, and many improvements were effected as a result of such visits. Special effort has been made during the year to take samples of Milk from all producers and retailers in the district (in conjunction with the County Health Department) for the purpose of Bacteriological Examination, and the results may have been seen in the Inspector's Report.

(b) *Meat and Other Foods*—The inspections of meat has been somewhat reduced since the transference of the Wholesale Slaughter House, but there is still a fair number of animals being slaughtered in the small slaughter-houses in the district.

Visits are frequently made to the Shops, Bakehouses and other premises where foodstuffs are prepared and sold.

Vans and Carts used for the hawking of the various foodstuffs, too, are carefully watched and inspected by your Sanitary Inspector.

Meat and Other Foods Condemed

| | Cattle exclud- ing Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lam's | Pigs |
|---|----------------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------|------|
| Number killed if known ... | 65 | 71 | 95 | 1103 | 532 |
| Number inspected ... | 65 | 71 | 95 | 1103 | 532 |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis :— | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned ... | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 2 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... | 13 | 21 | 0 | 83 | 19 |
| Percentage of number affected with disease other than T.B. ... | 21·5% | 29·6% | 0 | 8·15% | 3·9% |
| Tuberculosis only :— | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned ... | 10 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... | 4 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B. | 6·1% | 19·7% | 0 | 0 | 2·8% |

(c) *Adulteration*—The Council is not the foods and Drugs Authority.

(d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Foods*—All examinations under this heading are carried out at the Laboratories of the County Council.

(e) *Nutrition*—No special work has been carried out by your Health Department under this heading.

Road Accidents

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Fatal Accidents ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| Accidents involving serious injuries | ... | ... | 5 |
| Accidents involving slight injuries | ... | ... | 29 |

Inquests

There were 11 inquests held on persons residing in your district :—six were coal-mine workers, two domestics, one general dealer, one school student, and a baby girl (20 months).

Prevalence of, and control over Infectious and other Diseases

Very little difficulty was experienced in obtaining admission to the hospitals, *namely* : Allt-yr-yn Isolation Hospital, Newport; Bedwellty Isolation Hospital ; and Monmouth Isolation Hospital.

The number of cases of each disease that necessitated removal, can be seen in the prepared table (Notifiable Diseases).

A supply of Diphtheria Anti-Toxin and Streptocide for puerperal cases is always kept at the Health Department of the Council Offices, and the medical practitioners in the district make full use of this provision.

When notification of an Infectious Disease is received, and enquiries reveal that there are school children in the home, intimation is always sent to the Head Teacher of the respective schools.

After any Infectious Disease all premises and beddings are fumigated by the Sanitary Inspector.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES GORDON MACKAY, M.B.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

| Disease | Age Groups of Cases | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total Deaths |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|----------------------------|
| | Under 1 Year | 1 and under 2 | 2 and under 3 | 3 and under 4 | 4 and under 5 | 5 and under 10 | 10 and under 15 | 15 and under 20 | 20 and under 35 | 35 and under 45 | 45 and under 65 | 65 and up | Total | Cases admitted to Hospital |
| Small Pox ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 5 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 5 | ... | ... | ... | 30 | 3 |
| Scarlet Fever ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 7 | 19 | 18 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | 51 | 18 |
| Diphtheria ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Enteric Fever (inc. Paratyphoid) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | 3 | ... |
| Puerperal Fever ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Pneumonia ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Other diseases notifiable locally | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Other diseases generally notifiable | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... |
| Erysipelas ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Encephalitis Lethargica | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |

Notifiable Diseases

a. Prevention of Blindness—No action has been taken by the Local Authority under Section 176, Public Health Act, 1936.

b. Tuberculosis—No action has been taken by the Local Authority under either of the following :—

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 172.

Ratio of Non-notified Tuberculosis Deaths to total Tuberculosis Deaths

Non-notified deaths, 1. Notified deaths, 10. Ratio, 1 to 11

TUBERCULOSIS

| Age | New Cases | | | | Deaths | | | |
|--------|-----------|----|----------|----|-----------|----|----------|----|
| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pul. | | Pulmonary | | Non-Pul. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | 1 | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | 2 | | 2 | | | | | |
| 20 | 2 | 3 | 1 | | 1 | 2 | | |
| 25 | 2 | | | | | | | |
| 35 | 1 | 1 | | | 2 | | | |
| 45 | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 55 | 3 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 65 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | |
| Totals | 11 | 5 | 6 | | 5 | 5 | | |

On receipt of notification of a case of Tuberculosis, the Sanitary Inspector pays a visit to the house to ascertain the conditions and to give a supply of disinfectant.

Where patients are removed to Hospital or Sanatorium, the Inspector again pays a visit and causes the premises to be fumigated, and in some cases walls are stripped, and bedding, etc. destroyed. In the absence of a Steam Disinfector, bedding and other clothes cannot be treated as effectively as desired.

TABLE I—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1938 AND PREVIOUS YEARS
Name of District—Mynyddislwyn.

| Year | Pop lation estimated to middle of each year | Births | | Total Deaths Registered in the District | | Transferable Deaths | | Nett Deaths belonging to the District | | | | |
|------|---|----------------------------|--------|---|--------|------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|-------------|------|-------|
| | | Un- corrected Number | Nett | | Number | Rate | Of Non-Of Resi- r'sid'nts dents regis- not reg- tered istered in the in the District District | Under 1 Year of age | | At all ages | | |
| | | | Number | Rate | | | | Number | Rate per 1000 Nett Births | Number | Rate | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 1933 | 15930 | 317 | 317 | 19·9 | 125 | 7·85 | ... | 26 | 22 | 69·40 | 151 | 9·48 |
| 1934 | 15800 | 315 | 315 | 19·93 | 149 | 9·43 | 6 | 28 | 10 | 31·75 | 171 | 10·82 |
| 1935 | 15300 | 228 | 228 | 14·9 | 121 | 7·9 | ... | 33 | 12 | 57·0 | 121 | 7·9 |
| 1936 | 14020 | 243 | 243 | 17·3 | 136 | 9·7 | ... | 18 | 18 | 74·7 | 154 | 10·9 |
| 1937 | 14020 | 236 | 226 | 16·11 | 117 | 8·3 | 3 | 25 | 10 | 48·54 | 142 | 10·12 |
| 1938 | 13210 | 208 | 197 | 14·8 | 110 | 8·3 | ... | 33 | 10 | 50·7 | 143 | 10·8 |

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 5,415.

Rateable Value, £47,570

Product of a Penny Rate, £155.

Total population of all ages, 13,210 (estimated).

TABLE II.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1938

Name of District—MYNYDDISLWYN.

| Causes of Death | | Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" occurring within the District (a) | | | | | | | | | Total Deaths in the District |
|---|-----|--|------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| | | Under 1 Year | 1 and under 2 | 2 and under 5 | 5 and under 15 | 15 and under 25 | 25 and under 45 | 45 and under 65 | 65 and upwards | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | |
| All Causes { Certified ... { Uncertified ... | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | |
| Tubercular Meningitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Child Birth | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Enteric Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Measles | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Whoop | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Influenza | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Apoplexy | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Cancer | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 4 | 6 | 11 | |
| Arterio Sclerosis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 | 7 | |
| Heart | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 11 | 20 | 34 | |
| Nephritis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | |
| Appendix | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | |
| Intestinal Obstruction | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | |
| Cirrhosis of Liver | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 2 | |
| Laryngitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Rheumatic Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Puerperal Sepsis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Exophthalmic Goitre | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Diarrhoea, etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Convulsions | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | |
| Want of Breast Milk | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Bronchitis | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | |
| Gastro Enteritis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | |
| Asthma | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Pneumonia | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 2 | 6 | |
| Broncho Pneumonia | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 3 | |
| Consumption | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Tuberculosis (lungs) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | ... | 1 | 5 | |
| Pleurisy | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Abscess Brain | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Stroke | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Polio Encephalitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Senile Decay | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 | |
| Other Defined Causes | ... | 6 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 25 | |
| Totals | ... | 10 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 13 | 22 | 52 | 110 | |

TABLE III.—INFANT MORTALITY, 1938.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at ages under 1 year.

Name of District—MYNDDISLWYN.

| Causes of Death | | Under 1 week | 1-2 weeks | 2-3 weeks | 3-4 weeks | Total under 4 weeks | 1-3 months | 3-6 months | 6-9 months | 9-12 months | Total Deaths under 1 Year |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| All Causes | Certified | ... | | | | | | | | | |
| | Uncertified | ... | | | | | | | | | |
| Influenza | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Intussusception | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Measles | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pertussis | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Convulsions | ... | .. | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Pneumonia | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Icterus | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gastritis | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Syphilis | .. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tubercular Meningitis | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Whooping Cough | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Diphtheria and Croup | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nephritis | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Abdominal Meningitis | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other Tubercular Diseases | .. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Asthemia | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Spinal Befida | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Laryngitis | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bronchitis | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bronchial Pneumonia | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Twist of Gut operation | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Diarrhœa & Enteritis | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rickets | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Suffocation (overlying) | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Birth Debility | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Atelectasis | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Congenital Malformation (<i>c</i>) | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Premature Birth | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | 3 | | | | | |
| Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus | ... | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other Causes | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | | | | | |
| Total | ... | 6 | 1 | | | 7 | 2 | | 1 | | 3 |

TABLE IV.—MONTHLY COMPARISON.
TABLE OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR 1938.
Name of District—MYNYDDISLWYN.

| MONTH | BIRTHS | | | DEATHS | | | MONTH |
|-----------|--------|---------|-------|--------|---------|-------|-----------|
| | Males | Females | Total | Males | Females | Total | |
| January | 10 | 10 | 20 | 9 | 12 | 21 | January |
| February | 7 | 10 | 17 | 2 | 5 | 7 | February |
| March | 9 | 7 | 16 | 7 | 5 | 12 | March |
| April | 10 | 7 | 17 | 8 | 3 | 11 | April |
| May | 10 | 18 | 28 | 6 | 6 | 12 | May |
| June | 7 | 5 | 12 | 8 | 5 | 13 | June |
| July | 6 | 8 | 14 | 9 | 4 | 13 | July |
| August | 6 | 9 | 15 | 4 | 7 | 11 | August |
| September | 6 | 4 | 10 | 10 | 4 | 14 | September |
| October | 9 | 9 | 18 | 6 | 3 | 9 | October |
| November | 7 | 4 | 11 | 6 | 4 | 10 | November |
| December | 8 | 11 | 19 | 7 | 3 | 10 | December |
| TOTALS | 95 | 102 | 197 | 82 | 61 | 143 | TOTALS |

Transferable Deaths of Non-Residents ... 0

Transferable Deaths of Residents ... 33

TABLE V.—COMPARISONS OF THE DISTRICT.

| | Mynyddislwyn 1938 | Mynyddislwyn 1937 | Mynyddislwyn 1936 | Mynyddislwyn 1935 | Mynyddislwyn 1934 | Mynyddislwyn 1933 | County 1938 | England and Wales |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Population | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 2. Area in Acres | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 3. Inhabited Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 4. No. of Council Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 5. Birth-Rate | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 6. Death-Rate | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 7. Infant Death-Rate (per 1000) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

Sanitary Inspector's Report for the Year 1938.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Council Offices,
Pontllanfraith.

MR. CHAIRMAN,
MRS. HARROLD AND GENTLEMEN,—

I am again privileged to submit for your consideration
my Report for the Year ending December, 1938.

Notices served—

| | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Informal | ... | ... | ... | 143 |
| Statutory | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Inspections made | ... | ... | ... | 1086 |

Below is given a list of the sanitary defects which were remedied :—

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Main, Pantry and W.C roofs repaired | ... | 107 |
| Eaves, gutters provided and repaired | ... | 125 |
| Defective drains repaired | ... | 61 |
| Drains opened and cleansed | ... | 113 |
| New Flush Tanks in W.C's. | ... | 26 |
| Flush Tanks in W.C's. | ... | 109 |
| New Pans in W.C's. | ... | 36 |
| Ventilation Shafts repaired | ... | 23 |
| Rain water pipes repaired | ... | 90 |
| Dilapidated W.C's. repaired | ... | 33 |
| Defective W.C. joints, etc. | ... | 42 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| New W.C's. provided | ... | ... | 1 |
| Houses repaired (external) | ... | ... | 131 |
| Houses repaired (internal) | ... | ... | 64 |
| Cesspools cleansed | ... | ... | 3 |
| Fowls-cot nuisances abated | ... | ... | 4 |
| Pig-sty nuisances abated | ... | ... | 1 |
| Conversion of Pails into W.C's. | ... | ... | Nil |
| Overcrowding abated | ... | ... | 10 |
| Dilapidated back-yards re-paved | ... | ... | 41 |
| Dirty premises | ... | ... | 21 |

Slaughterhouses

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Number of Slaughterhouses on register | ... | 3 |
| Number of visits to Slaughterhouses | ... | 331 |

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Meat—These important duties are discharged with the same vigilance as in the past. The three private slaughterhouses are visited regularly while slaughtering is taking place. Any alterations in the time of slaughtering is at once notified.

Full advantage was again taken by persons who reared pigs on cottage premises, or smallholdings, and killed thereon after due notice of intended slaughter, in accordance with the stipulations of the Ministry of Health Circular (604) and the special provisions granted by the Council. All such carcasses (together with the internal organs) were examined on the premises. All meat and other food material condemned as unfit were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed. In no case was a Magistrate's Order necessary to secure this result.

Blown Carcasses—In accordance with Section 77 of the Mynyddislwyn Urban District Act of 1913, it is unlawful to blow or inflate the carcass or any part of the carcass of any animal slaughtered within (or brought into) the district. This regulation has been satisfactorily complied with.

Slaughtering of Animals Act, 1933

With the exception of slaughtering by a Jew or Mohammedan for his co-religionist, all animals have now to be slaughtered by means of mechanically operated instrument. The provisions of this Act are being complied with by all slaughter-men in your district.

The following are the particulars of the numbers of animals slaughtered for food in the locality during the year 1938 :—

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1. Cattle | ... | ... | ... | 136 |
| 2. Sheep and Lambs | ... | ... | ... | 1103 |
| 3. Pigs | ... | ... | ... | 532 |
| 4. Calves | .. | ... | ... | 95 |

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

In conjunction with the Health Department of the County Council, 60 samples of milk (including repeat samples) were taken for bacteriological examination and for the detection of tubercle bacilli. The majority of samples were ladled out of jacks, serving-pails and churns of retailers on the street; and the standard, bacteriologically, on the whole was fairly satisfactory.

Retailers whose samples were not of the desired standard were notified and interviewed personally, and where repeat sampling and consultations proved unsatisfactory, the vendors responsible were reported to the Council and further measures were taken to ensure that these samples were brought up to a satisfactory standard.

I am pleased to report that no Tubercle Bacilli were found in any of the samples taken. The carton system of milk delivery has not with one exception been introduced into this district, but a number of milk purveyors deliver their milk in sealed bottles.

The general standard of your milk supply is a very good one, when, considering the present method of delivery is obsolete and unhygienic. Records of samples of milk ladled out with small measures from open pails, have shewn an increased bacterial count to that of the same milk bottled at the source of production. It is regrettable, under these circumstances, that we lack the necessary legislation to enforce delivery in cartons or bottles.

Numerous visits were made to the cowsheds and dairies during the year, and it was only in a few cases that the cleanliness was not up to expectations. The farmer was spoken to and at the time of the re-visit the conditions were improved.

Several minor improvements were carried out at a number of cowsheds, to my satisfaction.

Unsound Meat and other Foods

The following articles were destroyed, during the year, as being unfit for human consumption :--

Home-Killed Meat

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| 1. Beef | ... | ... | ... | 2216 lbs |
| 2. Mutton | ... | ... | ... | 245 lbs |
| 3. Veal | ... | ... | ... | — |
| 4. Pork | ... | ... | ... | 390 lbs |
| 5. Offal (Beef, Pork and Mutton) | ... | | | 725 lbs |
| Total English Meat | | | | <u>3450 lbs</u> |

Frozen and Chilled Meat (Foreign)

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| 1. Beef | ... | ... | ... | 42 lbs |
| 2. Mutton | ... | ... | ... | Nil |

The quality of the meat from the animals slaughtered in the district, and the meat brought into the district during the year, was of a high standard.

Tinned Goods

| | <i>Tins</i> | | <i>Tins</i> |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Milk | ... 121 | Mixed Fruits | ... 29 |
| Tomatoes | ... 65 | Cream | ... 7 |
| Salmon | ... 8 | Herrings | ... 5 |
| Sardines | ... 14 | Tongue | ... 3 |
| Corned Beef | ... 12 | Misc. pots, jars, bottles | 66 |
| Lobster | ... 3 | Rabbits | ... 0 |
| Syrup | ... 7 | Fish | ... 34 |
| Prunes | ... 22 | Fruit | ... 120 |
| Raspberries | ... 63 | | |
| Eggs | ... | | 76 |

Provision, Butcher, Fried Fish and Ice Cream Shops

The premises that come under the above heading have been regularly visited, and the commodities exposed for sale were inspected and examined to see if they were fit for human consumption.

It was not found necessary to serve any notices or take any "formal" action, as anything which was not to my satisfaction received immediate attention.

Ice Cream—In the absence of regulations enforcing the persons and premises to be registered, it is difficult to obtain accurate information as to the number of people who deal in this much consumed commodity. Only by enquiries from the person in charge of street barrows and carts am I able to discover and inspect the source of ice cream manufacture.

This, however, will be changed with the introduction of the Foods and Drugs Act; October 1939, when all premises where ice cream is manufactured will be registered, and all dealers in ice cream for sale will be compelled to have their name and address legibly and conspicuously displayed on the stall, vehicle, or other container as the case may be.

Most of the ice cream sold in your district is produced under hygienic conditions, by persons who appreciate the necessity for scrupulous cleanliness in its production, but there is (in my opinion) still need for a legal standard for ice cream.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops

| | | |
|---|--------|-----|
| Number of Cowsheds on Register | ... | 54 |
| Number of retail purveyors on Register | ... | 52 |
| Number of wholesale purveyors on Register | | 23 |
| Inspections of Cowsheds and Dairies | ... | 142 |
| Inspections of Milk Shops | | 19 |

Infectious Diseases

Number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified :—

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Small Pox | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | 30 |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | 51 |
| Enteric Fever | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Tuberculosis--all forms | ... | ... | ... | 21 |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| Puerperal | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| Pneumonia | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Encephalites Lethargica | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Anterior Poliomyelitis | ... | ... | ... | 0 |

Cinemas

| | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Number in area | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Inspections made | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Notices served | ... | ... | ... | 0 |

Tents, Vans and Sheds

Owing to the strenuous efforts made in past years to prevent the erection of this type of building for human habitation, very little trouble has been experienced during the year in respect to any new-comers, and no case has been before the Courts.

Common Lodging Houses

| | | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Number in area | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Inspections made | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Notices served | ... | ... | ... | 0 |

Increase of Rents and Mortgage (Interest) Restriction Acts

No application was made for a certificate under the above Act during the year.

Eradication of Bugs

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Number of | a. 1—Council Houses Infested | ... | ... | 14 |
| | b. 2—Council Houses Disinfested | | ... | 14 |
| | a. 1—Other Houses Infested | ... | ... | 3 |
| | b. 2—Other Houses Disinfested | | ... | 3 |

The methods employed for freeing the infested houses from bed bugs is by stripping, spraying of Solution D, the use of a Painter's Blow-Lamp, and in some cases Sulphur Candles.

All vacant Council Houses are immediately notified to the Health Department. A visit is then made to the premises and, if necessary, disinfestation is carried out before the in-going tenant occupies the premises.

No steps were taken to ensure that the beds of in-going tenants were free from bugs.

Disinfestation is carried out in the Council Houses by direct labour, and in other cases this work is undertaken by the owners or occupiers.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919

The powers exercisable by the Monmouthshire County Council having now been delegated to the Council, are being administered (on your instructions) by myself. The Sewers, Tips, Water Courses and all property likely to be rat infested, have been baited during the year, with good results. This, I think, was partly due to the better methods of control adopted at the refuse tips, the systematic laying of rat baits throughout the district, the fixing of wire cages on the top of drain vent pipes, and the better co-operation of occupiers in ridding their premises of these rodents, a duty which was not appreciated in the past.

It is regretted that some people still prefer to tolerate this very costly and objectionable nuisance, rather than construct their premises on rat-proof lines, so that no access or harbourage can be afforded these vermin. This part of the work demands a fair amount of my time, and to succeed in keeping these pests within a reasonable number requires periodical baiting and investigation.

Inspection of Factories

| Premises | Number of | | |
|--|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers prosecuted |
| Factories with mechanical power | 33 | 2 | |
| Factories without mechanical power | 26 | 1 | |
| Other Premises | 6 | | |
| Total ... | 65 | 3 | |

Defects Found

| Particulars | Number of Defects | | | No. of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted |
|--|-------------------|----------|----------------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred to H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of Cleanliness ... | 2 | 2 | | |
| Overcrowding | | | | |
| Unreasonable Temperature ... | | | | |
| Inadequate Ventilation ... | | | | |
| Ineffective drainage of floors | | | | |
| San. Cons.— | | | | |
| insufficient | | | | |
| unsuitable or defective ... | 1 | 1 | | |
| not separate for sexes ... | | | | |
| | 3 | 3 | | |

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Harrold and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

P. S. JAMES

